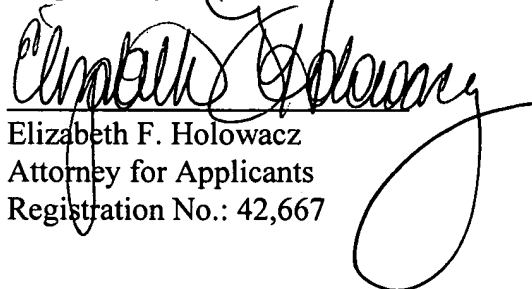


C. Remarks

Claims 31, 33-51, 55, 57-62 and 65-77 are pending in this application, with claims 31, 47, 51, 55, 76 and 77 being independent. Each of the independent claims has been amended to clarify the invention and to provide Applicants with a more complete scope of protection. Support for the amendments may be found throughout the specification and the claims. No new matter has been added. Consideration of the present claims is respectfully requested.

Applicants' undersigned attorney may be reached in our New York Office by telephone at (212) 218-2100. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our address listed below.

Respectfully submitted,



Elizabeth F. Holowacz  
Attorney for Applicants  
Registration No.: 42,667

FITZPATRICK, CELLA, HARPER & SCINTO  
30 Rockefeller Plaza  
New York, New York 10112-3801  
Facsimile: (212) 218-2200